

IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application. An identifier indicating the status of each claim is provided.

Listing of Claims

1. – 18. (Canceled)

19. (Previously Presented) A thermal head control system for controlling heating energy to a thermal head perforating stencil material unrolled from a stencil material roll comprising:

a residue obtaining means for obtaining an amount of stencil material remaining in the stencil material roll; and

a thermal head controlling means for controlling the heating energy to the thermal head on the basis of the amount of remaining stencil material obtained by the residue obtaining means, such that the heating energy of the thermal head increases as the amount of remaining stencil material decreases.

20. (Currently Amended) The [[A]] thermal head control system as defined in Claim 19 further comprising:

a temperature detecting means ~~which for detecting~~ detects the working environmental temperature of the thermal head,

wherein the thermal head controlling means controls the heating energy to the thermal head on the basis of the working environmental temperature of the thermal head detected by the temperature detecting means and the amount of remaining stencil material residue.

21. (Currently Amended) The ~~[[A]]~~ thermal head control system as defined in Claim 19 further comprising:

a kind obtaining means ~~which obtains~~ for obtaining the kind of the stencil material,

wherein the thermal head controlling means controls the heating energy to the thermal head on the basis of the kind of the stencil material obtained by the kind obtaining means and the amount of remaining stencil material residue.

22. (Previously Presented) The thermal head control system of Claim 19 further comprising:

an elapsed time obtaining means for obtaining elapsed time from the production of the stencil material roll,

wherein the thermal head controlling means controls the heating energy to the thermal head on the basis of the elapsed time from the production of the stencil material roll obtained by the elapsed time obtaining means and the amount of remaining stencil material.

23. (Canceled)

24. (Canceled)

25. (Canceled)

26. (Currently Amended) The [[A]] thermal head control system as defined in Claim 19 ~~in which~~ wherein the stencil material roll is provided with a storage means ~~which stores for storing~~ residue data according to the residue of the stencil material and the residue obtaining means ~~may obtain~~ obtains the residue of the stencil material on the basis of the residue data read ~~out from~~ the storage means.

27. (Canceled)

28. (Currently Amended) The [[A]] thermal head control system as defined in Claim 21 ~~in which~~ wherein the stencil material roll is provided with a storage means ~~which stores for storing~~ kind data according to the kind of the stencil material and the kind obtaining means ~~is a means for reading out~~ reads the kind data from the storage means.

29. (Canceled)

30. (Canceled)

31. (Canceled)

32. (Canceled)

33. (Canceled)